

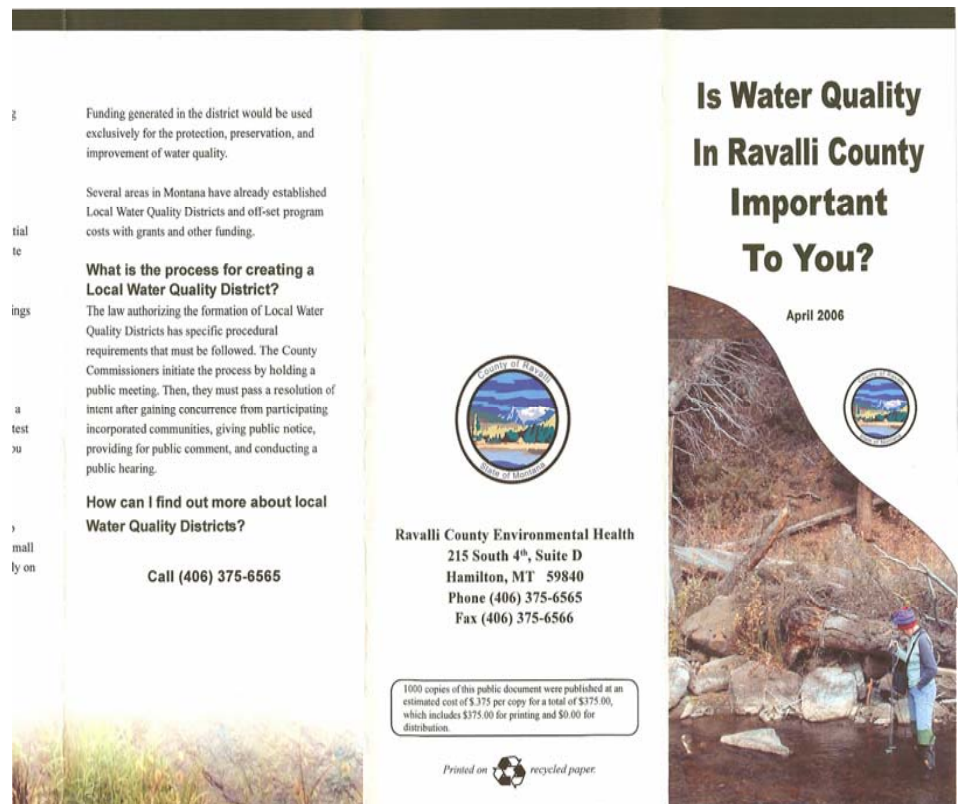


Ravalli County Environmental Health

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Planning for Future Water Demands

- Establish a local Water Quality District
- Local and state regulations for individual Water Supplies (well permits)



Funding generated in the district would be used exclusively for the protection, preservation, and improvement of water quality.

Several areas in Montana have already established Local Water Quality Districts and off-set program costs with grants and other funding.

What is the process for creating a Local Water Quality District?

The law authorizing the formation of Local Water Quality Districts has specific procedural requirements that must be followed. The County Commissioners initiate the process by holding a public meeting. Then, they must pass a resolution of intent after gaining concurrence from participating incorporated communities, giving public notice, providing for public comment, and conducting a public hearing.

How can I find out more about local Water Quality Districts?

Call (406) 375-6565

Is Water Quality In Ravalli County Important To You?

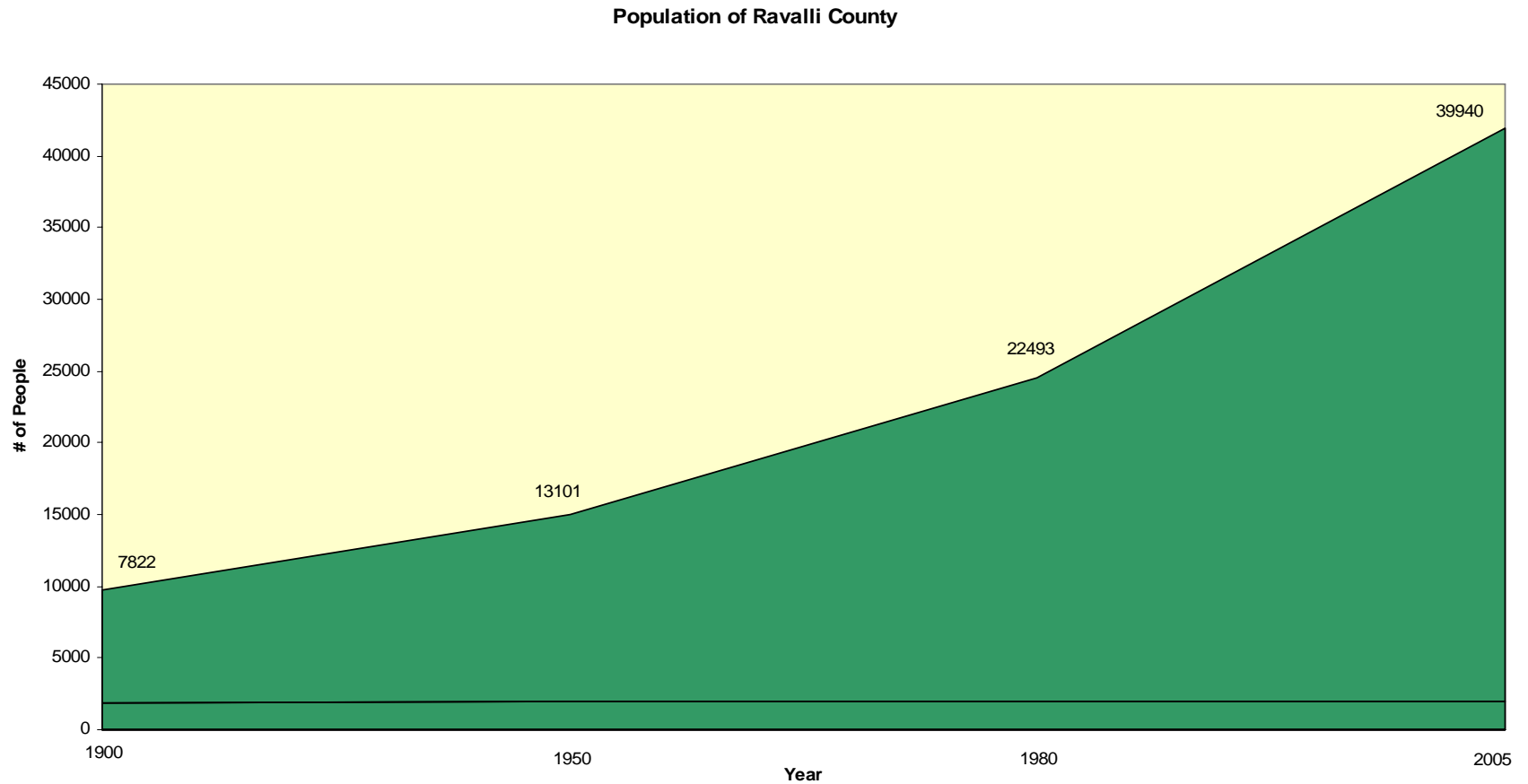
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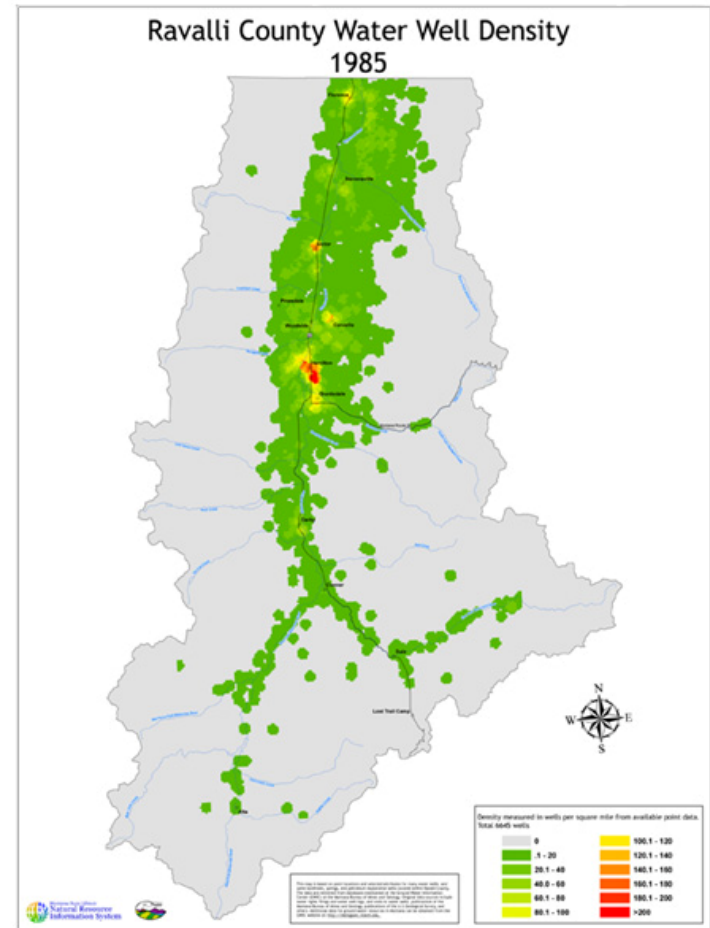
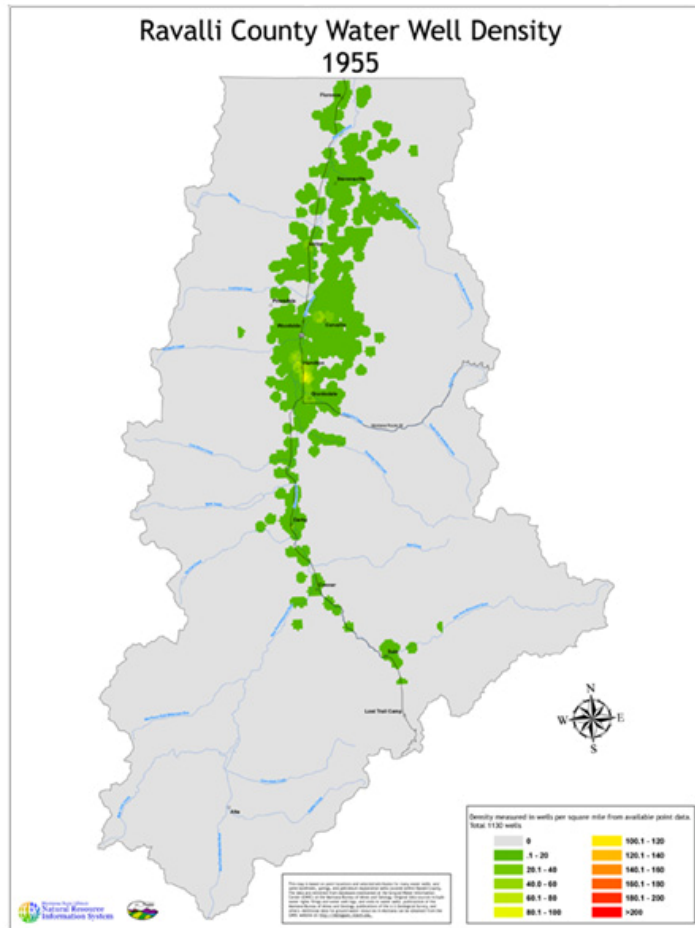
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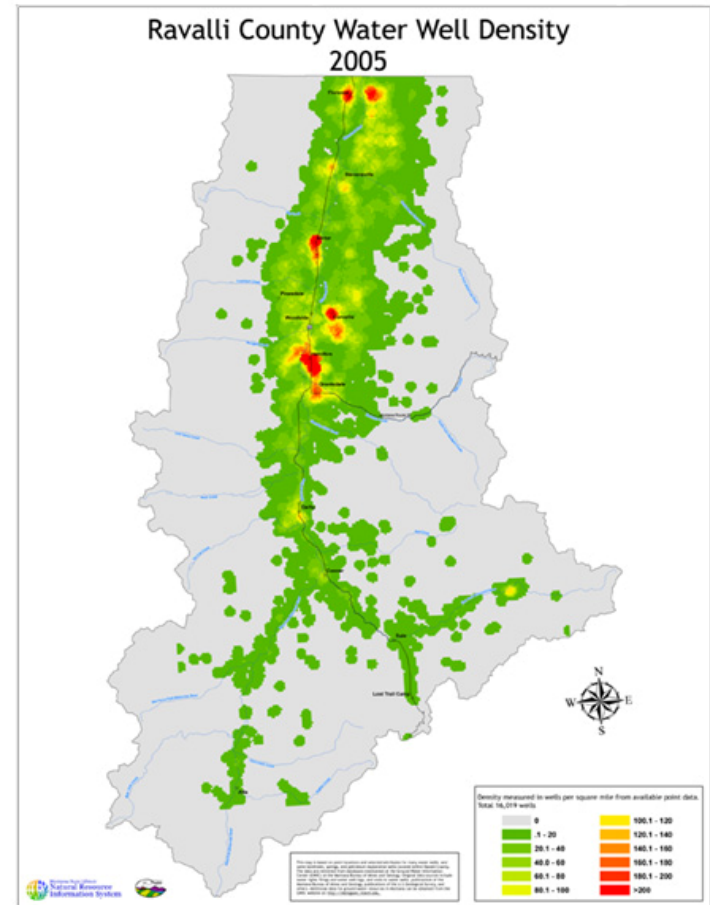
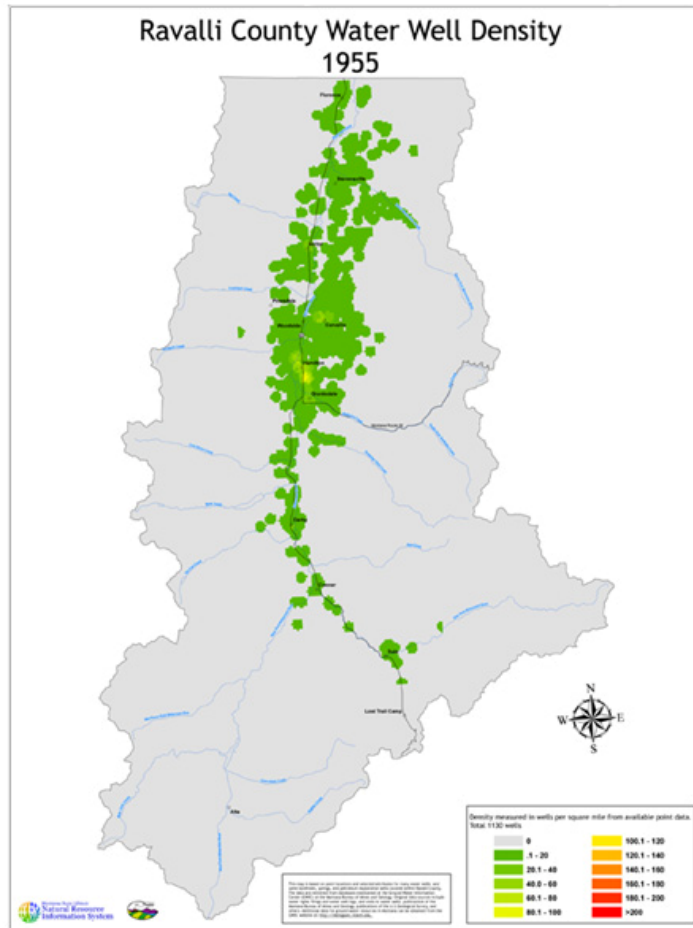
Current and Projected Water Supply Needs Based on Population Trends



Well Density in 1955 and 1985



Well Density in 1955 and 2005



Planning and Management Issues

- Legislation – local water supply regulations, Board of Health
- Planning ahead – local expertise through a local Water Quality District
- State Regulations – Water Rights for Individual Wells
- Irrigation versus Groundwater



Tools

- Legal Authority to Regulate – Board of Health, Well Permits
- Hydrology Expertise – local Water Quality District
- Centralized Data and Improved Data– local Water Quality District
- Carrying Capacity of Aquifer

